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WAPPO MYTHS.¹

BY HENRIETTE ROTHSCHILD KROEBER.

TWO BROTHERS.

THE old Coyote lived at Loknoma (Middletown), and with him lived the Chicken-Hawks. The Chicken-Hawks were hunters of all kind of game, — deer, rabbits, and so on. They hunted in the daytime and came home to eat what they had killed during the day. After eating, they went to sleep in the sweat-house, and in the morning, after having slept and sweated, repeated their hunt for game.

The Hawk stayed in the sweat-house, he being Capitan, and having no need for hunting, as the others supplied him. He had two little boys, who were with him playing with the arrows he was making. Not satisfied with these, he made a wheel or hoop for them to roll around in the sweat-house. They were rough at playing, and broke the hoop. This caused them to cry, for they wished to continue playing, and told their father so.

The old Capitan made another hoop, but strengthened it by putting on beads. Again the boys played, and again broke the hoop. Dissatisfied, they commenced annoying their father, and would not let him work at his arrows, but broke them and pulled off the feathers, never ceasing their crying.

The Hawk then made another hoop and strengthened it by putting a stronger belt (elima) around it. The boys played and were quiet, and the Hawk paid no attention to them and so lost them.

The hoop rolled out of the sweat-house, and the boys followed on and on. They laughed as they ran after the hoop, that was always a little ahead of them. They were unable to overtake it. While running they sang, "Nachilyi itutewelil hashi" ("Hoop, come back! Hoop come back!"). But the hoop went faster and faster on its way south, and the boys just continued following until late in the evening, when the hoop turned, and, itself tired, dropped down before the boys.

The younger boy was crying, and asked his brother where was their mother.

When the Hawk looked up from his work, he missed the children, and knew they were lost.

The boys slept where they stopped, on the ground, without shelter or blanket. When they awoke, they rose and gathered acorns. They cooked and ate them. Looking about, they saw a little lake. Many ducks were on the lake. The boys made a snare for the ducks. They caught some and brought them to the camp and cooked them, and the

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elder brother fed the younger. Then he set more snares and caught more ducks.

Then he said, "If this house we made does n't stand over night, we'll die in the morning." In the morning the house stood, and they continued living on the ducks they trapped.

After sundown the little boy said, "How are we going to grow big by night?" The elder said, "To-night we have acorn-bread, mush, and pinole." They grew big over night because they got and ate all the food they called for.

They were both grown, and both trapped ducks all day. The duck-feathers they used to make blankets.

They went to bed at night, but were awakened by the Screech-Owl's loud cry. The younger went to call it, saying, "Come here and eat some ducks!" The Owl came close when it was called. The boy said, "Hurry up and eat!" The Owl came and sat on the roof of the house.

The elder brother was lying in bed. The younger sat down on the other side of the fire. The Owl jumped down to the door, with eyes big and glaring. The younger brother saw the Owl, and became frightened. He asked his brother, "What is that?" He answered, "That is what you called. Why do you become frightened?"

Then the younger brother said to the Owl, "I called you to eat these ducks."

The Owl helped himself to the acorn-bread and passed it to the younger boy. The boy asked, "Have you any daughters?" The Owl answered, "Yes, I have two daughters." The boy said, "That, then, is right for us."

Daylight came, and the Owl wanted to go home. The younger boy sacked the ducks for the Owl to take with him. A little way from where the boys lived was the Owl's village. There the Owl went.

In the morning the people in the village asked the Owl many questions about the ducks, and where they came from. The Owl said, "I met two boys, who called me and gave me the ducks."

The Hawk started away from home, saying, "I am going to look for my boys." The Hawk's brother went with him. They went to the south to look for the boys. At night they came to where the boys lived.

The Hawk had another brother, who lived in the south, and the three brothers met the next morning. The brother of the south said to the other two, "You have been away a long time. Now you must come home with me. You need not return to your village." He then led his brothers and the Hawk's two boys to the village where he lived. He asked his brother, "What did you do to your two sons, and how did they come here?"

They all stayed in the village Melele (by the pond), and that's the last.

COYOTE AND THE FROG.

At Bulnoma, about two miles above Middletown, lived the old Coyote, with his grandchild the Hawk (nihle). The Hawk hunted and killed deer, but never gave any to his grandfather. They lived in different houses, the Coyote and his wife the Frog (gadek!), and the Hawk and his wife the Quail (bibi).

The old Coyote brought a deer-hide and antlers and put them on his wife, and disguised her as a deer.

The Hawk hunted all day and saw no deer. When he was returning home, he saw one, and tried to shoot it with his arrow; but the Deer kept moving towards the river, always keeping ahead of the Hawk. When the Deer reached the river, he was shot in the belly by the arrow sent by the Hawk. But the Deer got away. He jumped into the river.

This was Coyote's disguised wife. By jumping into the river she was able to throw off the hide and antlers and hop back to her house, where Coyote helped her into the room. She became sick. Coyote put medicine on the spot where she was shot.

The Hawk followed the blood trail left by the Deer. It got dark, so he went home. He told Coyote, "I shot a Deer near here, but it got dark and I could n't find it, so I came home."

The Frog was very sick during the night, and Coyote tried to help her. The Hawk had but one arrow, with a very long flint, and he always used it to kill deer. At midnight the Frog pulled out the flint from where she had been shot. When it fell to the ground, it sounded like silver. The Hawk heard it, and called to the Coyote, "That sounded like my flint falling." The Coyote then began to cry, "He, he!" and said, "I did n't hear your flint; but I have one here, and it is my flint."

They got a basket, and Coyote filled it with hot water and washed the flint in it. In the morning the flint came out of the basket a man. He sat next to Coyote. Coyote said, "That's right, my boy."

In the morning the Hawk went through a little opening in Coyote's door. He saw a man sitting with Coyote. The Hawk said, "That looks like my brother. I will tell Coyote."

Coyote offered the flint man food, but he refused and just sat there. Coyote did n't know what to do, so he went to Mischelewu and gathered sweet clover and took it home. Then he showed it to his flint son. He grasped it from Coyote and kissed him, and ate all that Coyote had gathered. On this clover the flint man lived. He ate nothing else.

The next day the Coyote and his frog wife went out and gathered a big lot of clover (boti) for him.

The Hawk never got his flint back. And that is all.